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TOTTINGTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1959



TOTTINGTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

R E P O R T

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Public Health Inspector

F O R T H E Y E A R 1 9 5 9

Tottington Urban District Council

Chairman of the Council :
Councillor W. Hilton, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1959

Councillor A. C. BIRTWISTLE, Chairman
 „ J. WOODCOCK, Vice-Chairman
 „ F. BLORE
 „ J. CAREY
 „ W. CHAPPELL
 „ R. W. DILLON
 „ J. HALL
 „ C. G. HAMPSON
 „ V. HOWARD (Mrs.) J.P.
 „ W. HUDSON
 „ C. A. McDONALD
 „ J. M. SMITH
 „ J. H. WHITTAKER

Clerk of Council :
J. J. BARRATT

Medical Officer of Health :
C. H. T. WADE, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :
P. BIRCH, Cert. R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Town Hall,
Tottington,
Lancashire,

To the Chairman and Members of the Tottington Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present the annual report for the year 1959 on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the district. The population was estimated to be 5,680. This figure shows no change from last year's estimate.

The adjusted birth rate was 15.9 and the adjusted death rate 13.9 per 1,000 of the population. The corresponding rates for England and Wales were 16.5 and 11.6 respectively. The total number of live births was 73 and the total number of deaths 93. There were no maternal deaths and only one infant death. There were two still births. There were three cases of respiratory tuberculosis and three cases of glandular tuberculosis. Two cases of poliomyelitis were reported, both of which recovered.

Thirteen houses were built during the year. There were twelve applications for improvement grants. Eleven of these were approved by the Council. In addition ten applications for standard grants were received and approved.

Two applications for certificates of disrepair were made and issued.

There were 95 applications for houses and 62 applications for bungalows remaining on the Council's list at the end of the year. After a survey of unfit houses preparations have been made for dealing with some of them by clearance order.

As a result of the dry summer difficulties were experienced with the water supply, especially in areas depending on private supplies. The Council, through its Public Health Inspector, made arrangements for the transport of mains water by an Army water trailer tank to houses where supplies had become exhausted.

The Council is also considering the possibility of the district becoming a smoke controlled area. In the meantime local action has been taken in regard to smoke nuisance from industrial premises.

Milk and water supplies have been satisfactory but some milk supplies have been found to contain the organism responsible for undulant fever. This emphasises the fact that the only safe milk supply is one which has been heat treated or pasteurised. There were no outbreaks of food poisoning and a small number of notified cases were not confirmed after investigation.

I wish to thank the members of the Council and the staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. T. WADE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Area—2,544 acres

Population—(1951 census) 5,824

(Estimated mid-1959—5,680)

Number of inhabited houses (at the end of 1959 from the Rate Books)—2,074

Rateable Value—£55,887

Sum raised by Penny Rate—£187.61179

Table 1—**VITAL STATISTICS**

1958						1959			
M	F	Total				M	F	Total	
Live Births :									
27	40	67	Legitimate	...	...	...	31	41	72
—	3	3	Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Estimated Population :									
	12.3		Crude	...	...	...		12.9	
	15.3		Adjusted	...	...	...		15.9	
M	F	Total				M	F	Total	
Still Births :									
3	2	5	Legitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
—	—	—	Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
	66.7		Still Births Rate per 1,000 Total Births				26.7		
	75		Total Live and Still Births				75		
M	F	Total				M	F	Total	
Deaths—Infants :									
—	1	1	Legitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
—	—	—	Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births :									
	14.3		Total	...	...	...		13.7	
	1.49		Legitimate	...	...	...		1.01	
	Nil		Illegitimate	...	...	...		Nil	
M	F	Total				M	F	Total	
—	1	1	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age			1	—	1	
	4.2		Illegitimate Live Births % of total Live Births				1.4		
	Nil		Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births				Nil		

COMPARABLE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES FOR 1959

Birth and death-rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases
in the year 1959

(Provisional figures based on Registrar-General's Quarterly Returns)

Estimated home population—mid 1958—44,907,000

mid 1959—45,386,000

1958		1959	
No.	Rate per 1,000 Home Population	No.	Rate per 1,000 Home Population
738,323	16.4	Births :	
16,274	0.36	Live Births... ..	750,170
	21.6(a)	Still Births... ..	15,889
			16.5
			0.35
			20.7(a)
		Deaths :	
526,792	11.7	All Causes	527,574
4,480	0.10	Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	3,855
4,000	0.19	Respiratory	3,475
480	0.01	Non-respiratory	380
95,799	2.12	Cancer (all forms)	97,116
19,809	0.44	Lung and Bronchus	21,063
75,990	1.68	Other cancer	76,053
326	0.43(a)	Maternal Mortality (total)	291
263	0.35(a)	Maternal Cases (excluding abortion)... ..	244
		Due to abortion	47
63	0.08(a)	Infant Mortality	16,471
16,620	22.5(b)	Neo-natal Mortality	11,881
11,969	16.2(b)		
		Notifications (corrected)	
147	0.00	Typhoid Fever	119
199	0.00	Paratyphoid Fever	376
836	0.02	Meningococcal infection ...	745
38,844	0.86	Scarlet Fever	47,889
33,384	0.74	Whooping Cough	33,208
79	0.00	Diphtheria	103
3,295	0.07	Erysipelas	3,200
5	0.00	Smallpox	1
259,221	5.75	Measles	539,207
22,297	0.49	Acute Pneumonia... ..	26,789
		Acute Poliomyelitis :	
1,410	0.03	Paralytic	733
587	0.01	Non-paralytic	289
		Acute encephalitis :	
170	0.00	Infective	138
119	0.00	Post-infectious	119
38,101	0.84	Dysentery	35,600
8,931	0.20	Food Poisoning	9,992
10,777	0.24	Puerperal pyrexia	10,723
		Tuberculosis :	
26,595	0.59	Respiratory	24,499
262	0.01	Meninges and C.N.S.	244
3,231	0.07	Other	2,636
			0.540
			0.005
			0.058

(a) per 1,000 total (live and still) Births

(b) per 1,000 live births

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1959

1958							
16.5	Crude Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	16.4
14.2	Adjusted Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	13.9

1958								1959	
Males	Females							Males	Females
—	—	Tuberculosis—Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Tuberculosis—Other	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
1	—	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Whooping Cough	..	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
1	—	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	1	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	1	Malignant Neoplasms of Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
3	—	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	1	Malignant Neoplasms, uterus and Breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
2	2	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
—	—	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
4	9	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	2	8
13	6	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	9	7
3	3	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
13	12	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	8	16
—	3	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
—	—	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	—	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
—	1	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
—	—	Other diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	1	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
2	—	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
—	—	Congenital Malformations	..	...	...	...	...	—	—
2	2	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	6
—	—	Motor Vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
1	2	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
1	—	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
—	—	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
50	44							38	55
99		Total						93	

GENERAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT

Area : 2544 acres

Population (Est. mid 1959) 5680

No. of Premises by Categories :

1958		1959
1955	Houses and Flats	1968
65	Agricultural Dwellings	65
84	Shops (including Banks)	84
3	Offices	3
44	Warehouses, Stores and Workshops —(non-industrial)	44
11	Garages and Filling Stations and Car Parks	11
11	Public Houses	11
25	Factories and Workshops	25
1	Cinemas	—
7	Sport and recreation grounds	7
7	Social Clubs (including licensed clubs) ...	7
7	Schools	7
7	Municipal Offices, Crown Premises, Clinics, etc.	7
2227		2239

Total separately rated hereditaments of all classes ... 2487

Social Conditions of District

The area is primarily rural in character. The centres of population and industry are concentrated in five villages and two hamlets. Outside these centres are established mainly dairy farming and smallholding. The industries in the district include Weaving and finish of cloth, artificial silk manufacture, shuttle and packing case making, the reconditioning of machinery, re-wiring of electric motors, the preparation of industrial waxes, the manufacture of clothing and the manufacture of carpets.

SECTION B—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, is the responsible authority for the provision and maintenance of local health services such as Child Welfare, Mental Health, Care of School Children, and Care of the Aged.

The Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery, and Maternity and Child Welfare Services provided by the County Council are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme by the Divisional Medical Committee No. 12 from headquarters in Bury. The Divisional Medical Officer is in addition the Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District.

Hospital facilities are provided and maintained through the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee. Patients are admitted without regard to local authority boundaries.

The Urban District Council is responsible for the remainder of local health services, and the whole of those matters likely to affect our standards of environmental health. These services include :—

Control of Infectious Disease (including food poisoning); Examination of Water Supplies; Control of food and food preparing premises (including the sampling of milk, ice-cream and other foodstuffs for bacteriological examination); Provision of sanitary accommodation to houses, factories, shops and other premises, and the provision of public sanitary conveniences; Inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation; Detection and prevention of nuisances; The prevention of atmospheric pollution; Control of rat, mouse and insect infestations; Control of cleansing, disposal of refuse and sewage.

The examination of milk, water, ice-cream and samples of other foods, and the examination of pathological specimens is undertaken without charge to the Council by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

SECTION C—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

1. Infectious Diseases

42 Notifications of infectious disease were received during the year, a decrease of 96 on the 1958 figures. The reduction is mainly due to fewer notifications of Measles, Whooping Cough and food poisoning, the latter figure having dropped from 33 notifications to 5. Of the five suspected cases of food poisoning, examination of specimens failed to reveal any known food poisoning organism.

Two cases of Poliomyelitis were reported during the year, both patients recovered.

One case of suspected smallpox was reported, which on further investigation proved to be chickenpox.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)—1959

CASES NOTIFIED													Total Deaths 1958	Total Deaths 1959	Total Deaths 1959
Total 1958	NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25 and over	Age un-known				
3	Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—		
20	Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—		
1	Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—		
—	—Non-Paralytic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
73	Measles (excluding Rubella) ...	—	4	2	4	4	11	—	—	—	—	26	—		
—	Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
5	Dysentery ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—		
—	Meningococcal Infection ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	Ophthalmia Neonotorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
3	Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	3		
—	Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	Acute Encephalitis—infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	—Post-infective... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding para-typhoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
—	Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
33	Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	5	—		
—	Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
138	TOTALS ...	3	4	3	8	5	14	—	3	3	—	42	3		

TUBERCULOSIS

1958				TOTAL	AGE GROUPS	1959				TOTAL
Pulmonary		Other				Pulmonary		Other		
M	F	M	F			M	F	M	F	
—	—	—	—	—	Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	1	—	2	5-14 years	—	—	1	2	3
1	—	—	—	1	15-24 years	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	1	1	25-44 years	1	2	—	—	3
—	—	—	—	—	45-64 years	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	65 and over	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	1	1	4		1	2	1	2	6*
2		2				3		3		

*In addition two cases were transferred into the District and one case was transferred out. There have been no deaths from Tuberculosis during the past three years. The number of cases on the register at the year end totalled 27 a reduction of 7 from the previous year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

1. No. of Individuals who had completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1959 and comparison with 1958 :—

AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION										
	0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	Total under 5 years	5—	10—	Total aged 5-14 incl.	Total aged 15 and over
1959	76	3	2	—	—	81	10	1	11	—
1958	54	14	2	—	2	72	14	2	16	—

2. No. of Individuals who were given a reinforcement injection during 1959, i.e. subsequent to complete course :—

AGE GROUP					
	0—	5—	10-14 incl.	Total 0-14 incl.	Total aged 15 and over
1959	5	54	8	67	—
1958	2	30	18	50	—

3. No. of children who had completed a course of primary immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1959 :—

Age at 31/12/59 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1959	1-4 1955-58	5-9 1950-54	10-14 1945-49	Total under 15
No. immunised	20	240	322	416	998

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

No. of persons who completed vaccination against poliomyelitis during the period 28th December, 1958 to 2nd January, 1960 :—

Year of Birth	Number Vaccinated	Year of Birth	Number Vaccinated
1932 or earlier	22	1951	21
1933-1942	214	1952	21
1943	11	1953	20
1944	29	1954	19
1945	27	1955	20
1946	35	1956	14
1947	52	1957	18
1948	21	1958	46
1949	27	1959	4
1950	18	—	—
		Total 639	

The 1958 total was 673.

In addition 856 persons received reinforcement injections in the same period.

SECTION D—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Health Dept.,
Town Hall,
Tottington.
August, 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have the honour to submit in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health my report on the sanitary condition of the Urban District for the year 1959. The report includes details of progress made during the year in respect of water supplies—sanitary accommodation and housing.

During this year attention has been concentrated on housing and the improvement of drainage and sanitation in the unsewered areas. Considerable time was spent on emergency measures to offset the severe drought experienced and the reorganisation and re-equipment of the cleansing department was implemented.

A general survey of the housing conditions of the district revealed that some 85 properties were of a type suitable for action under the Housing Acts. These houses were situated throughout the whole urban district. The Council laid down the policy that areas of unfit property within the main villages were to receive priority and in the implementation of this policy it was decided that the area most needing attention was situated in Wesley Street where some demolition had already taken place and where some twelve premises were in extensive disrepair. The previous demolition of seven houses had not been satisfactorily carried out and the remaining shells were considered to be dangerous. An approach was made to the several owners who agreed to contribute to the cost of complete demolition and clearance of the site. This was carried out and the exposed wall of the remaining block of property was

made weatherproof. A start was then made on the preparation of a clearance area containing the remaining twelve unfit houses and this was completed during the year. The Council decided to re-develop the cleared site as a Council Estate, in conjunction with adjacent land.

In the outlying areas of the district a scheme was drawn up and approved by the Council for the improvement of the drainage at Rothwell Fold by the provision of a septic tank installation to serve four houses. The provision of a cesspool at Affetside School materially improved the drainage of those premises, and schemes for the provision of a septic tank for a house in the Turton Road area and the re-draining of a farm with the additional provision of treatment tanks was negotiated to abate a nuisance from the pollution of a stream in that area.

Ten of the remaining twelve privy middens in the area were voluntarily converted to bins and pails. The Council assisted in the conversion by the free provision of the first bin and pail in each case.

Eleven applications for improvement grants under the scheme operated by Tottington Council were received during the year and ten of these were approved. In the case of the one disallowed, work had been commenced before Council approval had been given. During the year the Government's Standard Grant scheme came into operation. ^{into} ~~10~~ applications under this new Scheme were received and all were approved. ~~applications under this new Scheme were received and all were~~ In addition one major improvement scheme was approved for grant. Twenty-two schemes were completed during the year. The response from owners of tenanted property is very disappointing, no tenanted houses have yet been improved by way of either standard or Improvement grants, although a great number of suitable houses fall within this category. All the improvements have been carried out by owner/occupiers.

During the latter part of the year some concern was felt about the supply of water to the district. A severe drought was experienced and restrictions were imposed on the use of water from the Irwell Valley Water Board's Mains. At one time it was feared that the supply would have to be cut off and preparations were made by the Board and by the Local Authorities to meet this emergency. It will be appreciated that the failure of the mains supply would result in the complete breakdown of the sewerage system with the consequent danger to health this would inevitably produce. Fortunately this did not occur and the emergency provision of sanitary accommodation was not required. During the whole of the emergency, the Engineer of the Water Board kept in

close contact with the Health Authorities of the area served by the Board. Regular Meetings were held at the Board's Offices between their Engineer and the Medical Officers and Public Health Inspectors of the affected districts. This co-operation was of great value to all and the Board's Engineer, Mr. Wyllie is to be congratulated on this.

During this period (from August to October) all private supplies failed in the area not supplied by mains water, which constitutes roughly one half of the area of the district containing approximately 250 houses with a population of 700 persons. Emergency supplies of drinking water were provided by the Cleansing Department using two 250 gallon tanks. The water was obtained from the mains supply, and delivered to each house by Council vehicles. This capacity of 500 gallons proved to be insufficient so the Military Authorities at Chester were approached for the loan of an army water trailer. This was provided from a local Territorial Army Unit and was in use throughout the emergency. My thanks are due to the Military Authorities at Western Command for their co-operation and help, for without the loan of this equipment the resources of the Council would have been very severely strained.

A five-year plan during which period the whole of the district was to be constituted a smoke control area was originated and approved by the Council. A report was to be prepared on the suitability of one area of the district as a smoke control area. The Council also approved the appointment of the Engineer of the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service as consultant on technical matters relating to approval of boiler plant for the district.

Action was taken in two cases of smoke nuisances during the twelve months, both were from industrial premises and in both cases improvements were carried out to the boiler plant resulting in the abatement of the nuisance.

The surrender of unsound food by local retailers has continued on an informal basis, approximately 218 lbs. of this food has been disposed of by the Health Department and certificates of unsoundness issued. This type of co-operation is very valuable as unsound food is detected and dealt with before it reaches the consumer; and ensures that unsound food is properly disposed of.

The Cleansing Services of the District have been the subject of re-organisation. The staff have been re-allocated to various duties and a foreman has been appointed to co-ordinate the work

of the Department on a day to day basis. The increase in houses within the Urban District has increased the work of the Department. To enable this increase in work to be absorbed by the existing crews, the Council purchased a new Shelvoke and Drewry side loading freighter and placed an order for a much larger Karrier Dual Tip cleansing vehicle. This is expected to commence working in the district early in 1960. It is expected that the increased capacity of these vehicles will enable an increase of over 300 houses to be accommodated without any increase in the staff of the department. The increase in the number of septic tanks in the area necessitated a more economical method of emptying these being employed, particularly as the Council provide a free service in this respect dealing with the removal of sludge from these installations once or twice each year. To this end the Council purchased a mechanically operated diaphragm pump which has achieved the desired economy as well as proving a very useful piece of equipment in other respects—mainly on the sewerage system. Alterations have been made to the depot resulting in more storage space being provided, and proper provision for the baling and storage of waste paper has been approved. Details of the routine work of the department are given in the text of the report which follows.

I would like to express my thanks to the Members of the Council for their consideration towards me and to the members of the staff for their ready co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

PETER BIRCH.

Public Health Inspector.

INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

1. **Inspections of Houses for Defects. Public Health Act, 1936**

No. of Premises inspected formally or informally	...	23
No. of visits made for these purposes	... ..	51
No. of defects discovered	... 18 Abated	... 12
No. of Notices Served — Informal	18 Formal	... 4

2. **Inspections of Dwelling Houses—Housing Acts**

No. of premises inspected formally or informally	...	89
No. of visits made for these purposes	... ..	106
Dwelling houses found to be unfit and not capable of being made so at reasonable expense	... ..	2
Estimated number of unfit houses remaining	... ..	73

3. **Inspections of Properties under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

No. of premises inspected after complaint	...	22
No. of visits for these purposes	... ..	38
No. of infestations by rats found—		
major infestations	... ..	1
minor infestations	... ..	18
No. of infestations by mice found—		
major infestations	... ..	—
minor infestations	... ..	1
		—
	Total	20
		—

No. of treatments (including re-treatments)	...	86
---	-----	----

4. **Inspections of Factories under Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948**

No. of Inspections made	... ..	5
No formal action was required under the Act.		

5. **Inspections of registered food premises**

No. of inspections of ice cream premises	... ..	15
No. of inspections of butchers' shops	... ..	6

6. Table of Totals of all visits made during year by Public Health Inspector

No. of visits concerning water supplies	...	...	...	25
„ „ „ Samples (Water/Milk)	...	...	...	16
„ „ „ Drains, cesspools and septic tanks				81
„ „ „ Inspection of drainage work	...			18
„ „ „ Ponds, pools, ditches and water-				
courses	...	...	...	4
„ „ „ Conversions to water closets	...			1
„ „ „ Conversions to bins and sanitary				
pails	...	...	...	21
„ „ „ made on complaint	...	...	...	71
„ „ „ concerning housing repairs	...	...	...	51
„ „ „ individual unfit houses	...	...	...	106
„ „ „ certificates of disrepair	...	...	...	8
„ „ „ improvement grants	...	...	...	65
„ „ „ factories and business premises				5
„ „ „ smoke abatements	...	...	...	18
„ „ „ Food premises and industrial				
canteens	...	...	...	21
„ „ „ milk licences	...	...	...	2
„ „ „ infectious diseases	...	...	...	41
„ „ „ rodent control	..	...	...	21
„ „ „ other infestations	...	...	...	1
„ „ „ Cleansing	...	...	...	61

Miscellaneous visits (interviewing owners, agents, etc. No.

Access visits and other visits not classified) ... 84

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

1. Water Supply

The mains supply is provided by the Irwell Valley Water Board and serves the villages of Tottington, Walshaw, Greenmount and Hawkshaw.

The village of Affetside and Hamlets of Four Lane Ends and Three Lane Ends along with the property on Cann Street and the more isolated farm properties are dependent upon private supplies.

There are five public wells supplying water free of charge to the residents in the areas of Three Lane Ends, Cann Street and Affetside. These wells are cleaned and maintained by the Council.

From August until October all private supplies failed and emergency supplies of drinking water were provided over one half of the district not served by a mains supply. The water was obtained from the Irwell Valley Water Board's mains and delivered by the Council's vehicles in tanks and by a borrowed army water trailer. During the same period restrictions on the use of water from the mains were in force.

Number of houses newly connected to the mains supply

(a) Existing Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) New Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

Supply to all houses at end of year

(a) From public Mains—No. of dwelling houses	...	1834
Est. no. of population	...	4877
(b) From private supplies—No. of dwelling houses	...	251
Est. no. of population	...	703

Water Sampling

No. taken from public supply	...	1
No. taken from private supplies	...	2

All samples were satisfactory from a bacteriological point of view.

2. Sewerage and Drainage

The main sewerage system serves the villages of Tottington, Greenmount, Hawkshaw and Walshaw. These sewers discharge into the sewerage system of the County Borough of Bury and all sewage is treated at their works. Parts of Greenmount, the village of Affetside the hamlets of Four Lane Ends and Three Lane Ends along with outlying property to the west of the District, are without a sewerage system. In addition some forty properties situated in the Beryl Avenue and lower portion of Kirklees Street are not connected to the sewerage system, but plans to connect these properties to the sewerage system have been approved and work is expected to commence during the coming year.

The great majority of properties in the unsewered areas have pail closets which are emptied by the Cleansing Department weekly, but some 80 premises have septic tanks of one type or another. These include two large factories and one residential hostel.

There are in addition some waste water closets situated mainly in the villages of Tottington and Walshaw.

(a) Details of Sanitary accommodation at end of year

No. of pail closets	..	...	209
No. of waste water closets		...	60
No. of fresh water closets		...	1955
No. of trough closets	..	...	1
No. of privy middens	..	...	2

The number of houses on the water carriage system of sewage disposal is estimated to be 1858.

(b) Conversions

One waste water closet was converted to a water closet during the year. To encourage this type of conversion the Council offer a grant of 50% of the cost, subject to a maximum of £16, payable to the owner on completion of the work if this is carried out with the Council's approval. During the year seven of the existing twelve privy middens were voluntarily converted to pail closets.

3. Public Cleansing

The cleansing of the district is organised on a weekly basis. The Council provide two vehicles, one of which is adapted to draw a trailer tank. This vehicle is used to collect the bins and pails from the outlying area and carries a crew of two men. The larger vehicle carrying a crew of four men is employed emptying bins only from the larger villages.

The department empties weekly a total of approximately 2149 dustbins and 192 pail closets, in addition to periodically emptying septic tanks and privy middens. Public wells are also cleaned at frequent intervals.

Refuse is disposed of by partially controlled tipping at the Council's site on Turton Road, whilst the night soil is discharged into a manhole on the main sewerage system of the district.

There are no dry ashpits in the district, but two privy middens serving two premises are still in use. It is impracticable to convert these at the moment as it is impossible to guarantee a weekly collection.

Dustbins are supplied by the Council, if requested, on repayment at cost price without added delivery charges. Premises are normally provided with dustbins by either owners or occupiers.

Street sweeping is under the control of the Surveyor.

4. Salvage

A separate collection of waste paper from shops and other business premises is made once each week. This paper is baled at the Council's Depot and sold as salvage. During this year 18 tons of paper were recovered. It has not been considered practicable to attempt the recovery of other forms of salvage.

5. Factories Acts 1937 and 1948

The following is a list of trades or manufactures carried on in factories within the urban district.

- Cotton goods Manufacture
- Finishing of cotton goods
- Manufacture of artificial silk
- Manufacture of Starch

Manufacture of Packing Cases
 Carpet Sewing
 General Engineering
 Foundering
 Baking
 Manufacture of Ice Cream
 Preparation of industrial waxes
 Reconditioning of machinery
 Re-wiring of electric motors
 Manufacture of tufted carpets

There are forty-three factories registered with the Local Authority. During the year 5 inspections were made, but no formal action was required under the Factories Acts.

6. Clean Air Act, 1957

Eighteen observations were made on factory chimneys during the year and formal notice was given in one case. No further nuisance was observed.

The new Building Byelaw made under Section 24 of the Act came into force in the District on the 1st June, 1959.

7. Rodent Control

The work of rats and mice destruction in the area has been handicapped by illness and the dismissal of the rodent operative. The disinfestation of premises has been continued by the Urban District of Ramsbottom for the balance of the year.

22 properties were inspected after complaint

18 minor rat infestations were found

1 minor mouse infestation was found

86 treatments (including re-treatments) were carried out.

SECTION E—HOUSING

HOUSING CONDITIONS

The majority of houses situated in the main villages are constructed of stone, usually in short terraces. These houses are substantially sound lacking only facilities such as hot water supplies, bathroom and interior sanitation. In many of these houses the facilities have been provided since the properties were constructed but most houses still lack them. It is hoped that more owners will take advantage of the system of grants available to provide these facilities. A large area of more recent development is situated in the village of Greenmount being mainly larger type semi-detached or detached houses of good quality which have all the required facilities. The property in the more outlying districts is mainly stone built cottage type constructed in small folds or blocks usually lacking a sewer and proper water supply.

Some small pockets of property exist mainly in the villages of Tottington and Walshaw where there is extensive disrepair and these may require action under the Housing Acts for clearance.

(a) **No. of houses erected during the year**

	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	Nil
...	By other Local Authority	...	...	...	...	Nil
	By other bodies or persons	..	...	...	...	13

(b) **Inspections under the Housing Acts**

(i)	No. of premises inspected formally or informally	...	89
	No. of visits made for these purposes	...	106
(ii)	No. of houses unfit for human habitation during year	.....	2
	No. of houses unfit for human habitation at end of year	 approx.	73
(iii)	Houses made fit after informal action by Local Authority	...	12
	Houses made fit after formal action Public Health Act, 1936	...	4
	Housing made fit after formal action—Housing Act	...	Nil
(iv)	Houses closed under Housing Act, 1957 Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1)	..	2

Improvement Grants

During the year eleven applications for grants under the Improvement Grant Scheme operated by the Council were received and ten were approved. This scheme was superseded by the Standard Grant Scheme. Ten applications for standard grants under the new scheme were received and all were approved.

One application for a Discretionary Grant was received and approved.

Twenty-two improvement schemes were completed during the year. The grants were made mainly to owner/occupiers, to assist them in the provision of bathrooms and hot water supplies, but one grant was approved for a major reconstruction which would provide a further unit of accommodation. The response from owners of tenanted properties is very poor, in spite of the simplified procedure now applying to the standard grant.

Rent Act, 1957

Three applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received during the year. Certificates of Disrepair were issued by the Council in all cases.

SECTION F—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. (a) Numbers of Food Premises in the District by Categories

General Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	10
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those dealing in wet fish and game)	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Meat shops (Butchers, cooked meats, tripe, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bakers and/or Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	9
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sweets, sugar confectionery, minerals and ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	10
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	11
Licensed Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shops dealing in milk	...	...	...	...	...	12

(b) Number of premises registered under Section 16 of Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	13
Meat Shops	...	...	...	...	...	7

During the year 21 inspections of food premises were made.

There are no slaughterhouses established within the district and meat supplied to shops is slaughtered and inspected in neighbouring districts. As a matter of routine all meat in Butchers' shops is examined at the time of inspection of premises, as is food of all types intended for sale to the public.

2. (a) Milk Supply

Number of distributors registered and operating from:—

(1) Dairies in the district	...	...	...	...	17
(2) Shops in the district	...	...	...	...	12
(3) Premises outside the District	...	...	...	...	2

The number of licences issued to dealers in specially designated milks were as follows:—

Licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	13
Licences in respect of Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	16
Licences in respect of Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	20

The number of dealers registered with the local authority as Distributors of milk is 31. There are no pasteurising or sterilising plants licensed in the district.

The area of the Urban District was declared to be a specified area by the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, 1958, which came into force on the 14th April, 1958.

This order declared that on and after the above date all milk sold within this district must be a specially designated milk. Retailers require a licence from the Council to deal in specially designated milk. These licences must be renewed by the dealer each year on the 1st January and to deal in milk without being licensed is an offence. There are no charges made for licences and it is the responsibility of the dealer to see that the licence is obtained.

(b) **Sampling**

8 samples of raw milk were examined for Tuberculosis.

2 samples of raw milk were examined for Brucellosis.

8 samples of raw milk were examined for keeping qualities.

1 sample of pasteurised milk was submitted for the phosphatase test.

1 sample of sterilised milk was submitted for the turbidity test.

All the samples proved satisfactory.

(c) **Unsound Food**

During the course of the year the following small quantities of food were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered by the retailers:—

Tinned Meats	...	...	..	...	...	115 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	43 lbs.
Tinned Fruits	...	...	...	...	...	41½lbs.
Tinned Milk	...	...	...	...	...	2½lbs.
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	...	4¾lbs.
Tinned Soups	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Steak and Kidney Pie	...	...	...	...	...	1 lb.

